

That was the message delivered from this podium just over 50 years ago when my hero, Dwight Eisenhower, addressed the House of Representatives. We are honored that his son, John, is here today.

John, we are honored to have you here. Please stand, John.

And General Eisenhower came that day to thank the 3 million American soldiers who had served under his command and to express our thanks for the support we had received from the home front. And he spoke for the ages when he said that, and I quote, "There is no doubt that our people's spirit of determination will continue to fire this nation through ordeals yet to come."

And one of the great lessons of this century and the legacy of an entire generation is that Ike was right. America has faced many ordeals in the past half century, and the spirit of determination of the American people fired our country through all of them.

So as we remember and pay tribute to the last 50 years, we must look ahead to the next 50 years, particularly Senator THURMOND, to the ordeals we face now and those yet to come: Ordeals like the budget deficit that threatens our children's tomorrow and the scourge of drugs that threaten their today.

In looking forward, it should become clear to my generation and to all generations that our work is not yet finished and our mission is not yet complete.

So as we leave this Chamber today let this Congress and the American people resolve to face our ordeals and tackle our problems with the same spirit of determination, the same courage and the same unwavering belief in the rightness of our mission that we displayed 50 years ago when our hearts were touched by fire and when America saved the world.

The SPEAKER. The benediction will be given by the Reverend Lloyd John Ogilvie, Chaplain of the U.S. Senate.

The Chaplain of the Senate, the Reverend Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following benediction:

Verses from the 46th Psalm provide an appropriate conclusion to this ceremony.

The Lord of Hosts is with us. Come behold the works of the Lord for He makes wars to cease. Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted in the Earth. I will be exalted among the Nations.

Let us pray. O Lord God of hosts, be with us yet lest we forget, lest we forget. As we conclude this period of national celebration of the end of World War II, keep us mindful that it was because of Your intervention that we were able to break the back of tyranny. May we never forget the supreme sacrifice of so many to accomplish so much to liberate humankind from the evil grip of a brutal enemy.

And, Lord, sharpen our memories of what can be done when we trust You completely and work together in unity in a cause of patriotism that demands

our utmost for Your ultimate purpose for our Nation. May our greater loyalty to You and what is best for our Nation overcome our secondary party spirit that often divides us.

Lord, bring us together as we claim Your supernatural wisdom in solving the problems that confront us and Your strength and courage for grasping the full potential of Your destiny for our great Nation. In Your victorious name, O Jehovah shalom, the only source of lasting peace, who calls us to be peacemakers together. Amen.

The SPEAKER. Members and guests will stand for the retirement of the colors.

The colors were retired from the Chamber.

The SPEAKER. At this time, the Members of the Senate will retire.

The Members of the Senate retired from the Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The purpose for the joint meeting having been fulfilled, the joint meeting is concluded. The House will continue in recess until approximately 11 a.m.

The honored guests retired from the Chamber, at 10 o'clock and 16 minutes a.m. The proceedings to close the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of World War II were concluded.

□ 1101

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. SHAYS] at 11 a.m.

#### PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

(Mrs. FOWLER asked and was given permission to extend her remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, like many Americans, I have taken a great deal of interest in the events commemorating the 50th anniversary of World War II. Particularly fascinating to me have been the reminiscences of veterans and civilians who came through the great struggle and lived to tell the tale. Their stories illustrate both the huge scope of the conflict and the personal toll it exacted on individuals and families.

More than 16 million Americans, including my father served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the war. Of those, more than 400,000 lost their lives, and thousands more were grievously injured. Others were separated from their families for years, fighting in far-off lands or holding on to the hope in dreary POW camps.

In peacetime, it is all too easy to forget the courage and commitment of these Americans, and the heavy price they paid for our freedom. It is also easy to take for granted the important work our men and women in uniform still do every day.

This commemoration has served as an important reminder of these things. One of the greatest tributes our Nation can pay to those who gave so much is to maintain a strong national defense—both to protect what they bought at such a great cost, and to ensure that no lives are lost in the future because we were caught unprepared.

Albert Pike once said that what we do for ourselves dies with us, but what we do for others remain and is immortal. As this commemoration ends, let us all remember the immortal contributions of those who offered up everything they had so that we might live in the sunshine of freedom. And let us renew our commitment to maintain that precious gift so that their sacrifice will not have been in vain.

#### THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF END OF WORLD WAR II

(Mr. STUMP asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be one of 21 current Members of the House of Representatives being honored for military service during World War II.

We, along with the millions of other young men and women who served our country in uniform during that war, strongly believed we were each doing our part for America.

We all served together, side by side. One people, one war, one commitment, and one objective—to restore the peace and the freedom to those overwhelmed by tyranny.

Mr. Speaker, Americans of all religions, of all races, and of diverse political philosophies, came together on the battlefield and on the homefront, helping to extinguish the flames of oppression and the evil that infected mankind throughout the world. America provided a beacon of hope in a dark sea of despair.

On our road to victory in World War II, the names of the battles and the campaigns are engraved in the annals of war and history. The blood of thousands of brave young Americans consecrate innumerable battlefields around the world: Pearl Harbor, Bataan, Coral Sea, Corregidor, Midway, Guadalcanal, North Africa, Sicily, Solerno, Anzio, Tarawa, Monte Cassino, Normandy, Saipan, The Philippine Sea, Peleliu, Leyte, Luzon, the Bulge, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa.

Mr. Speaker, although that war brought out the frenzied depravity in man—the Holocaust, Manzanar and other Japanese relocation camps, racial segregation, ethnic cleansing, criminal mistreatment of allied POW's, and the destruction of more than 55 million men and women, certain historic events symbolized the benevolence of Americans as well. The Red Cross, the Homeguard, Gold Star Mothers and Wives, War Bonds, care packages, and the reconstruction of Germany and Japan.

The Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of World War II will end with a closing week of ceremonies in November. Although, this event will mark the official end of commemorations, we must never forget to honor those brave men and women who served in the war that changed our future.